labour system on its own. Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 provides for consultation with the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board before any decision in the matter of prohibition of contract labour system in any process/opration is taken by the appropriate Government, that is the Ministry of Labour in this case. The ministry of Labour convened a meeting of the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board to consider the issue. In the meeting it was decided to constitute a new tripartite committee for study and necessary recommendations.

Parallel B.G. line between Madurai and Maniyachi in Southern Railway

3694. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any final decision has been taken regarding the representation of having parallel B.G. line between Madurai and Maniyachi in Southern Railway ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to connect Madras with Madurai by a parallel B.G. line ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to convert Madurai-Maniyachchi MG route into BG.

(c) to (e) No. Sir. However, conversion of Madras-Tiruchchirappally (*via* Chord)-Dindigul has been included in the Budget for 1992-93.

Conversion between Dindigul-Madurai and Maniyachi

3695. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the M.G. line *via* Manmadurai in Southern Railway has become important in view of conversions taking place between Dindigul, Madurai and Maniyachi ;

(b) whether Government have made any study on Passenger and goods traffic to be handled through this line ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether Govt. propose to modernise Manmadurai Junction under Model Railway stations scheme ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Development/modernisation of stations is undertaken on need-based programme depending on the growth in traffic and subject to availability of funds.

हरियाणा और राजस्थान के जिला मुख्यालयों को रेल-मार्ग से जोड़ा जाना

3696. श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हरियाणा और राजस्थान के अनेक जिला-मुख्यालयों

को रेल मार्ग से नहीं जोड़ा गया है जिसके कारण लोगों को अत्यधिक कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है;

(ख) रेल सुविधा से वंचित जिला मुख्यालयों को रेल मार्ग से कब तक जोड़ा जायेगा और 1 जनवरी, 1990 से आज तक इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(ग) हरियाणा और राजस्थान के किन-किन जिला-मुख्यालयों और प्रमुख शहरों को 1992-93 तक रेल-मार्गों से जोड़ दिए जाने की संभावना है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) राजस्थान तथा हरियाणा राज्यों के जिला मुख्यालयों में से केवल झालावाड़, बासवाड़ा, सिरोही तथा टोंक रेलवे द्वारा नहीं जुड़े हैं।

(ख) और (ग) रेलवे ने राजस्थान क्षेत्र में रेलवे नेटवर्क के अपग्रेडेशन के लिए एक व्यापक कार्यक्रम बनाया है। योजना आयोग द्वारा सीमित संसाधन उपलब्ध कराए जाने तथा नई लाइनों के निर्माण की पहले ही से बहुत सी चल रही परियोजनाओं के कारण, उपर्युक्त निर्माण कार्यों को पूरा कर लिया जाने के बाद ही राजस्थान क्षेत्र में जिला मुख्यालयों को जोड़ने के लिए रेलवे नेटवर्क के विस्तार पर आगे विचार किया जा सकता है।

Food and drinking water in trains

3697. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality as well as the quantity of food and drinking water being served in long-distance running trains are very poor and the rates very high ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railways always strive to improve the quality of food and service. This is an ongoing and continuous process. Steps taken/proposed to be taken include, introduction of casserole service, modernisation of base kitchens, training to catering staff, introduction of pantry car service, regular/surprise inspections, etc.

Complaints about the service in the compartments

3698. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a lot of complaints from the Ist A.C. Railway passengers about the service in the compartments, particularly toilet conditions ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to improve the conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Average cost of making one K M. long new railway B.G. line

3699. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the average cost of making one kilometre long new